

REMARKS

In order to place this application in condition for a complete action on the merits, the specification has been suitably revised to correct informalities and improve the wording. A new abstract has been submitted to replace the original abstract of record. Claims 1-3 have been amended in formal respects to improve the wording and place them in better conformance with U.S. practice.

To obtain a fuller and more comprehensive scope of coverage, new claims 4-17 have been added. Adequate support for the subject matter recited in the newly added claims may be found in the specification as originally filed.

Early and favorable action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Debra Buonincontri

Name

Debra Buonincontri

Signature

February 26, 2004

Date